Appl. No.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of preventing preferential corrosion of an extruded material, the method comprising:

homogenizing an aluminum alloy ingot, wherein the aluminum alloy ingot consists of 0.8-1.5wt% Mn, 0.1-0.7wt% Fe, and 0.03-0.6wt% Si, and optionally one or more of 0.00-0.45wt% Cu, 0.0-0.3wt% Mg, 0.0-0.3wt% Cr, 0.0-0.1wt% Ti, 0.0-0.5wt% Zn, 0.0-0.3wt% Zr and 0.0-0.3wt% Ni, the balance being aluminum and any unavoidable impurities;

port hole extruding the aluminum alloy ingot to produce a port hole extruded aluminum alloy; and

drawing the port hole extruded aluminum alloy to form a hollow material, wherein a difference in electric conductivity of individual portions in a lengthwise direction of the hollow material is not more than 1 IACS%, and such that an electric conductivity value becomes at least 39.0 IACS%;

wherein said homogenizing is regulated to precipitate sufficient Mn prior to extruding and drawing so as to produce said 1 IACS% or less conductivity difference in a lengthwise direction of the hollow material, and

wherein a preferential corrosion of a welded portion of the hollow material is inhibited.

- 2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said homogenizing of the ingot is carried out by maintaining the ingot at a first temperature of 500-630°C for more than zero but not more than about 24 hours, cooling the ingot down to a second temperature of 400-500°C at a cooling velocity of not more than 100°C/hr, and maintaining the ingot at said second temperature for about 4 to 48 hours.
- 3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said homogenizing of the ingot is carried out by raising the ingot to a temperature (T1) of 500-630°C, maintaining said ingot at said temperature T1 for more than zero but not more than about 16 hours, cooling the ingot from the temperature T1 to 350°C (T2) at a cooling velocity of not more than 100°C/hr, wherein the time between reaching the temperature T1 to reaching the temperature T2 is maintained within 10-48

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hrs, and cooling the ingot at an optional cooling velocity from the temperature T2 to room temperature.

- 4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said homogenizing of the ingot is carried out by maintaining the ingot at a temperature of 400-500°C for 0.5-4 hours, elevating the temperature up to 550-630°C, maintaining the temperature for 0.5-4 hrs., cooling the ingot to 350°C at a cooling velocity of not more than 100°C/hr, and cooling the ingot from 350°C to room temperature at an optional cooling rate.
- 5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, comprising drawing the material to manufacture pipe material that is substantially free of surface striations.